ENDOH et al. Appl. No. 09/925,952 September 6, 2005

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 6, 2005.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 19, 37, 38, 55 and 56, and the Examiner's indication that claims 9, 12-16, 45, 52, 54 and 57 contain allowable subject matter. In this respect, (a) allowable claim 54 has been added to claim 1; (b) allowable claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form; (c) allowable claim 45 has been added to claims 5 and 36; (d) allowable claim 52 has been added to claim 46; and (e) allowable claim 57 has been rewritten in independent form.

Thus, given the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

If any minor matter remains to be resolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with regard to the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

ву

oseph A. Rhoa

_ Reg. No. 37,515

JAR:caj

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor

Arlington, VA 22203-1808 Telephone: (703) 816-4000

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100